

Resolution A.771(18)

*Adopted on 4 November 1993
(Agenda item 11)*

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR CREWS OF FAST RESCUE BOATS

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety,

NOTING the current extensive use of fast rescue boats, in particular in offshore activities for rescue purposes,

RECALLING the intent of the 1983 amendments to chapter III of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, regarding life-saving appliances, in particular rescue boats,

BEING OF THE OPINION that fast rescue boats are of value in certain circumstances, in particular for the rescue of persons involved in offshore operations,

NOTING that resolution A.656(16) recommends that training by a duly authorized agency should be given to all helmsmen and crew of fast rescue boats in all aspects of rescue, handling, manoeuvring and driving these craft in various conditions and situations and in righting them after capsize,

RECOGNIZING that the safe operation of fast rescue boats in all weather conditions requires properly trained personnel,

HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendation made by the Maritime Safety Committee at its sixty-first session,

1. ADOPTS the Recommendation on Training Requirements of Crews of Fast Rescue Boats set out in the annex to the present resolution;
2. INVITES Governments to take account of the annexed Recommendation when developing courses and in the training of personnel for crewing fast rescue boats.

Annex

**RECOMMENDATION ON TRAINING REQUIREMENTS
FOR CREWS OF FAST RESCUE BOATS**

1 GENERAL

1.1 Before training is commenced, the requirements of medical fitness, particularly regarding eyesight and hearing, should be met by the candidate.

1.2 The training should be relevant to the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), as amended. In developing training recommendations, account should be taken of, but not limited to, knowledge of the following items:

Theory

- .1 The operator should have knowledge of:
 - .1.1 the safety precautions during launch and recovery of a fast rescue boat;
 - .1.2 how to handle a fast rescue boat in prevailing and adverse weather and sea conditions;
 - .1.3 the navigational and safety equipment available in a fast rescue boat;
 - .1.4 search patterns and environmental factors affecting their execution;
 - .1.5 how to recover a casualty from the water and transfer of a casualty to rescue helicopter and/or mother ship; and
 - .1.6 the assessment of the readiness of fast rescue boats and related equipment for immediate use.

Practical

- .2 Basic knowledge of the maintenance, emergency repairs, normal inflation and deflation of buoyancy compartments of inflatable fast rescue boats.
- .3 Basic knowledge and skills in surface swimming in special equipment as well as handling and maintaining such equipment.
- .4 The control of safe launching and recovery of the fast rescue boat.
- .5 Skills in the use of communication and signalling equipment between the fast rescue boats and helicopter and/or mother ship.
- .6 The handling of fast rescue boats in prevailing weather and sea conditions.
- .7 The ability to right a capsized fast rescue boat.
- .8 The ability to carry out search patterns, taking account of environmental factors.
- .9 The ability to safely recover a casualty from the water, use the emergency equipment carried on fast rescue boats and transfer of the casualty to a place of safety.